

Army Service Uniform (ASU)



Overview

The Army Service Uniform (ASU) provides America's Army with a traditional uniform that fully embodies the imperatives of utility, simplicity, and quality. The ASU presents a distinctive appearance that readily identifies a Soldier to the American public. Army blue, green, and white Service Uniforms will be streamlined to one blue ASU as part of an evolutionary process to reduce the number of Army dress uniforms. Army Blue as a uniform color traces its origins back to the National Blue of the U.S. flag and was first mandated for wear by Soldiers in the Continental Army of 1779.

The ASU provides a basic set of components that allow Soldiers to dress from the lowest end to the highest end of service uniforms with little variation required. The ASU eliminates the need for numerous sets of green Class A uniforms, dress blue uniforms and, for some, dress white uniforms. Streamlining various dress uniforms into one ASU reduces the burden on Soldiers in the same manner that the Army Combat Uniform (ACU) did for the field utility uniform. The ASU is made of durable materials that are suitable for daily use without special care.

Description

The ASU is based on the Army Blue Uniform. The men's and women's Army Blue Uniform coats basic designs remain unchanged. The belted trousers and slacks with a traditional low waistline will be made available for daily wear. The high waist men's trousers traditionally worn with suspenders will be retained for wear with the Army Blue Mess Uniform or with the Army Service Uniform coat. A new grey shirt may be worn for daily wear, and white shirts may be worn for ceremonial and formal occasions. Athletic fit sizes for men will be introduced.

Officers and non-commissioned officers (corporal and above) will wear the service cap with the ASU. Enlisted Soldiers (specialist and below) will wear the beret with the ASU. The current black accessories, such as the windbreaker, all-weather coat, overcoat, and sweaters, may be worn with the ASU.

HQDA G1 will establish wear policy for the ASU and a date when Soldiers may begin wearing the ASU with gray shirt.

Availability

The blue ASU will be introduced to military clothing sales stores in the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2007. Retail prices have not been established.

The Army will introduce the ASU into Soldiers' clothing bags at initial entry training in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2009.

The mandatory possession date of the blue ASU for all Soldiers is the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2011.

